GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2502
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2015
Import of Apples
Trivedi Shri Dinesh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

a) whether the Director-General of Foreign Trade has notified that apples can be imported in India only through the Nhava Sheva port;
b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
c) whether the move is likely to increase clearance time at Nhava Sheva port and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (b): Yes, Madam. The Directorate General of Foreign Trade, vide Notification No. 21/2015 dated 14.9.2015, has notified that import of 'Apples' covered under EXIM Code 0808 10 00 is allowed only through Nhava Sheva port.
The decision to channelize import of apples only through Nhava Sheva port was taken by the Government keeping in mind the interests of all stakeholders and sensitivities related to material handling, storage, quality, safety etc., involved particularly with respect to edible products. Apple is an important item in India's consumption basket on these considerations, and was imported through all ports irrespective of whether they were equipped with the basic facilities etc. to address these concerns. Apples are being imported in large quantities into India and their import is expected to grow in coming years. This measure was taken to address these concerns, factoring in their special handling/inspection requirements.

(c): No inputs/complaints have been received in this regard.

*****